NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Executive Committee N°18
July 31 - August 2, 1955

M I N U T E S

of the

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

of the

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Davos, Switzerland
July 31 - August 2, 1955

C O N T E N T S

List of Attendance	1
Minutes of Previous Meeting	2
General Secretary's Remarks	2
Agenda and Programme of Central Committee	2
Sub-Committees of Central Committee	3
Future Meetings	3
Reply to Letter from Patriarchate of Moscow	5
Report of the Finance Sub-Committee	6
Personnel Questions	6
Borrowing Powers	8
Financial Position of ICA/SR in relation to the Refugee Relief Act	8
Travel Loan Fund	9
General Budget, 1955 and 1956	10
Cheque Signatories	11
Report of ad hoc Headquarters Properties Committee	11
Faith and Order Constitution	14
Interpretation of Rules	14
Staffing Committee	14
Applications for Membership	15
Report of Joint Committee IMC-WCC	16
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs	16
Report on the Division and Departmental Committee Meetings	16
Report of Executive Committee to Central Committee	16
Division of Inter-Church Aid	17
Ecumenical Action	17
Adjournment	17

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1. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on July 31 by Dr. Fry in the chair.

2. Attendance

Honorary President:	The Bishop of Chichester
Presidents:	The Rev. Principal John Baillie Bishop Sante Uberto Barbieri Bishop Otto Dibelius Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill
Chairman:	Dr. Franklin Clark Fry
Vice-Chairman:	Dr. Ernest A. Payne
Members:	Dr. Eugene C. Blake Dr. Kathleen Bliss The Rev. P.K. Dagadu Professor G. Florovsky Professor J.L. Hromadka Bishop James of Philadelphia Dr. Martin Niemöller Mr. R.D. Paul Dean Liston Pope
Invited to sit in:	Archbishop Athenagoras
Staff:	The Rev. Paul Abrecht The Rev. K.M. Baker, Jr. Miss Madeleine Barot Dr. R.S. Bilheimer Dr. S.M. Cavert Dr. Leslie Cooke The Rev. John Garrett Dr. Norman Goodall Sir Kenneth Grubb Dr. H.H. Harms

The Rev. Francis H. House
Dr. Robert C. Mackie
Dr. R.B. Manikam
The Rev. B.-Th. Molander
Dr. J. Robert Nelson
Dr. D.T. Niles
Dr. O.F. Nolde
Mr. Frank Northam
The Rev. Philip Potter
Dr. Elfan Rees
Mr. John Taylor
Dr. U. Van Beyma
Dr. W.A. Visser 't Hooft
The Rev. Hans-Ruedi Weber
Mr. A. de Weymarn

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting held in Geneva in February were accepted as circulated.

4. Remarks by the General Secretary

Dr. Visser 't Hooft thanked the Committee for making possible his period of sabbatical leave, and expressed his gratitude to the staff and particularly to Dr. Mackie for carrying on during the interim. He had visited the four Ancient Patriarchates and the Church of Greece, and had found an increasing interest in the World Council of Churches. He spoke also of the coming of Bishop James of Melita as liaison officer to the World Council headquarters. He hoped that the Executive Committee might help in thinking through ways in which Bishop James could make the greatest contribution to the life of the Council.

In the period since the last meeting the international situation had changed greatly. There had been several contacts and visitations between people in the World Council constituency and the Churches in the Soviet Union. The Call to Prayer issued by the Presidents in connection with the meeting of Heads of Governments on July 18th had met a wide response in the churches. Another area of development in recent months had been the various moves towards church unity.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft then spoke of the meetings of the Divisional and Departmental Committees which had met the previous week in Davos. These meetings had proved to be of real assistance in guiding the staff and had also been an opportunity for the participants to share in an ecumenical encounter. The new structure and functioning of the World Council had now come fully into operation and seemed to be accepted widely.

5. Agenda and Programme of the Central Committee

The Committee examined the programme of the Central Committee meeting that was suggested by the staff and after several modifications accepted it for submission to the Central Committee.

6. Sub-Committees of the Central Committee

The Committee agreed that in addition to the two standing committees (Finance and Nominations) it should be proposed to the Central Committee that there be sub-committees on each of the main themes, and a general reference committee.

The Committee further agreed to suggest to the Central Committee that the following persons be asked to chair each of these committees:

1. Finance: Dr. Eugene C. Blake
2. Nominations: Dr. Reinold von Thadden
3. Reference: Dr. Nathan Pusey
4. "Implications of Christian Unity for Inter-Church Aid and for Assistance to Under-developed Countries"

   Professor J.R. Chandran
5. "Various Meanings of Unity and the Unity which the World Council of Churches Seeks to Promote"

   Professor H. d'Espine

7. Future Meetings

a) Executive Committee, February 1956

(1) Indications were that there would be a relatively good attendance at this meeting. Dr. Bliss hoped that care would be taken that the schedules to travel for the members going to Australia would not be too exhaustive. It was agreed that the General Secretary be asked to keep in touch with the Secretaries of the N.C.C.s in Australia and New Zealand as to the programme planned for each of the participants, and that he also submit the schedules to the participants concerned.

(2) There was considerable discussion as to the advisability of inviting certain people from Australia and New Zealand to sit with the Executive Committee at this meeting. It was pointed out that one of the reasons for holding a meeting of the Executive Committee in the remoter parts of the world was that the Central Committee could not meet there. For that reason there seemed to be good reasons for making certain exceptions to the general rule as to attendance at the Executive Committee meetings.
Dr. Blake moved and it was

AGREED that the General Secretary be asked so to arrange the programme of the Executive Committee that matters of more general interest including the reports of the Divisions might be dealt with during the first two days and to invite each of the members of the Central Committee from Australia and New Zealand to sit with the Committee during these two days, and also to invite those

member Churches in the two countries, which are not represented in the Central Committee to appoint a representative. If a representative from the Indonesian Churches were present for the Consultation which was to take place prior to the Executive Committee meeting, he might also be invited to attend. It was understood of course that these representatives would have no vote.

(3) The Committee agreed with the recommendation of the staff that four members of staff should in any case be present at the Australian Executive. (The four members of staff are: Dr. Cooke, Dr. Nolde, Mr. Potter and Dr. Visser 't Hooft). Since there was some question as to whether it would be advisable for Mr. Northam and Dr. Bilheimer to attend, the Committee agreed to leave the decision to the Executive Staff in consultation with Dr. Blake, the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

b) Central Committee, 1956

The Hungarian Churches had invited the Central Committee to hold its meeting in 1956 in Hungary. After discussion the Executive Committee

AGREED to recommend to the Central Committee that it accept the invitation of the Hungarian Churches to hold the 1956 meeting of the Central Committee in Hungary.

It was further

AGREED to submit the following dates for meetings in the summer of 1956:

Divisional and Departmental Ctees (near Geneva)
Thursday, July 19th to Monday, July 23rd

Joint Committee of the I.M.C. and the W.C.C. (near Geneva)
Saturday, July 21st to Monday, July 23rd

Executive Committee (near Budapest)
Thursday, July 26th to Saturday, July 28th

Central Committee (near Budapest)
Saturday, July 28th evening to Sunday, August 5th

c) Executive Committee, 1957

The Committee did not feel that there was any need for a change in the recommendations made in February that this meeting be held in Geneva from February 4th to 8th.

d) Central Committeem 1957

Dean Liston Pope issued on behalf of the Yale Divinity School and the Corporation of Yale University an invitation for the Central Committee to meet at the Yale Divinity School.

Dr. Baillie moved and it was

AGREED to recommend to the Central Committee that it accept with gratitude the invitation of the Yale Divinity School and the Yale Corporation to hold the 1957 Central Committee meeting on the Yale University campus, July 30th to August 7th.

e) Executive Committee, 1958

The Committee noted that the recommendation called for this meeting to be held in Africa but felt that it was too early to make a definite decision. Dr. Ranson noted that the I.M.C. was considering holding its Assembly in January of that year, perhaps in the Gold Coast.

f) Central Committee, 1958

Dr. Visser 't Hooft noted that the February recommendation had suggested Norway or Scotland for this Central Committee meeting, but said that since it had proved impossible to contemplate holding an Assembly on the Island of Rhodes there was now reason to ask whether the Central Committee could not meet there. The Committee agreed to ask the Secretariat, if the Central Committee approved of the idea, to look into possibilities.

g) Third Assembly

The Executive Committee felt that it was too early to initiate a general discussion in the Central Committee as to the place where the Third Assembly should be held. There was wide-spread feeling that the Third Assembly should be held in Asia but it was not yet clear as to whether a suitable place were available. The invitation from Germany was also noted.

3. Reply to the Letter from the Moscow Patriarchate

The Committee heard with interest brief reports on the recent visit of churchmen from the U.S.S.R. to Great Britain from Dr. Baillie, the Bishop of Chichester, Dr. Payne, Mr. House and Archbishop Athenagoras.

The General Secretary made some suggestions as to points which might be included in the reply to the Moscow Patriarchate. Several members of the Committee felt that the opportunity for an establishment of personal contacts with the Russian churches should be stressed in the letter. There was general agreement that the reply should not deal only with the issue of peace but that the World Council should also stress concern that the churches meet each other as churches. The Committee agreed to ask a sub-committee consisting of: The Bishop of Chichester, Bishop Dibelius, Prof. Hromadka and Bishop James of Philadelphia to prepare a draft of a reply which could be submitted to the Central Committee.

The Committee later examined the draft in detail and asked the sub-committee to prepare a further draft for the Central Committee, taking into account the substantial modifications which had been suggested by the Committee. It was

AGREED that the Executive propose to the Central Committee that the discussion of this letter be done in closed session.

9. Report of the Finance Sub-Committee

Dr. Blake explained that the Finance Sub-Committee had held only one short meeting and had deferred consideration of most questions until the meeting of the full Finance Committee. He explained that those recommendations of the Finance Sub-Committee which involved increased expense were subject to the provision of funds and would therefore not be effective until the total financial position had been reviewed by the full Finance Committee. Dr. Blake then read the Finance Sub-Committee's report, which had been circulated; the discussion in the Executive Committee is recorded below after the quotation of each section of the report.

(1) Personnel questions

(a) Ad hoc Salaries Committee

"On three matters the ad hoc Salaries Committee submitted to the Finance Sub-Committee the following report and recommendations:

(i) that, for children still in full-time education, children's allowances shall be paid after a child reaches the age of 20 up to a maximum age of 23 at the rate fixed for children aged 16-20, the World Council accepting responsibility for the full allowance since no state allowances are paid after the 20th birthday.

The Finance Sub-Committee recommends adoption of this recommendation."

Dr. Blake explained that recommendation (i) would at present only affect one or two persons, and that the Finance Sub-Committee recommended that the rule should be adopted retro-actively. The Executive Committee approved this recommendation.

(ii) "In respect of staff members who, before joining the World Council staff, were members of a retirement or pension fund within their own churches, the annual contribution necessary for the maintenance of rights within such a church fund may be in excess of the 10% of basic salary available for that purpose from the World Council Provident Fund. In such cases it is clearly in the interests of the World Council that those rights should be maintained. It is therefore recommended:

that in those cases in which the member church in question is unable to take responsibility for the excess contribution, the World Council may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, accept responsibility in whole or in part for such excess.

The Finance Sub-Committee recommends adoption of this recommendation."

The Executive Committee expressed agreement with the suggestion that, in the first place, the member church in question should be asked whether it could accept responsibility for the excess contribution and, with that understanding, approved the recommendation.

"(iii) that, as from July 1st, 1955, there be a general increase of Frs. 25 per month for grades IV to VII and of Frs. 20 per month for grades VIII to X for the office staff."

The ad hoc Salaries Committee had determined that, although no general salary increase was necessary under the rules adopted by the Central Committee in 1951, comparison of World Council salaries for Office Staff with the salaries paid in other organisations and in commercial firms in Geneva indicated that the proposed increases were justified. The Finance Sub-Committee therefore agreed to recommend adoption of this recommendation.

The Executive Committee approved recommendation (iii).

"The Finance Sub-Committee was advised that the General Budget figures prepared for presentation to the Finance Committee included provision for the expense which would be incurred under the above three recommendations.

The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that the ad hoc Salaries Committee had been unable to complete its study of senior staff salaries and sought authority to continue its study and to submit its report to the Executive Committee in February 1956. The Finance Sub-Committee recommends that this request be approved."

Dr. Blake explained that the ad hoc Salaries Committee had reached agreement on certain recommendations concerning the Secretarial Staff salaries but had not completed its study. One important matter still under examination was proposals regarding retirement pensions and the final proposals on that question would probably involve increased expenses. Both the ad hoc Committee and the Finance Sub-Committee had therefore felt that it would be best to defer consideration of Secretarial Staff questions until February 1956 in the expectation that at that time a complete plan would be available and could be considered in the light of the total cost of all suggested changes.

The Executive Committee agreed to renew the mandate of the ad hoc Salaries Committee and to defer consideration of Secretarial Staff salaries until February 1956.

(b) Individual salaries and allowances

"The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that the General Secretariat recommended increases of salary retro-actively to July 1st, 1955, to four office staff members in recognition of increased responsibility or changed status and the granting of a dependent relative allowance retroactively to January 1st, 1955 to one Secretariat Staff member. The Finance Sub-Committee recommends approval of these proposals. The Finance Sub-Committee also considered proposals for final provision for the retirement of one Secretarial Staff member and recommends approval of those proposals. The detail of these actions is recorded in a confidential minute of the Finance Sub-Committee."

The Executive Committee approved these recommendations.

(2) Borrowing Powers

"It was recalled that in February 1955 the Executive Committee had adopted the following resolution:

'that authority be given until the next meeting of the Executive Committee to the General Secretary or his stated representative acting together with the Director of Finance and Administration to borrow money if necessary against the World Council's investments to provide the necessary funds to maintain the operations of the Service to Refugees'.

The Finance Sub-Committee was advised that no need had yet arisen for action to be taken and money to be borrowed under these powers and that it was hoped that need would not arise in the next period. It was, however, reported that the need to borrow money might arise during the coming six months and the Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend:

that the above authority be renewed for the period up to the Executive Committee meeting in February 1956."

The Executive Committee approved this recommendation.

(3) Financial position of Division of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees in relation to the Refugee Relief Act

"The Finance Sub-Committee received a report from the Administrative Committee of the Division on this matter and reviewed the question briefly. The following facts were noted:

(a) that the operations of the Division were being conducted under the supervision of the Administrative Committee of the Division within the limits of available resources, as in past years, with the exception of the special position in relation to the RRA programme.

(b) that whereas it had been reported to the Executive Committee in February that the accounts of the Service to Refugees were expected to close with a deficit of about $95,000 at the end of 1954 by reason of the special problems in relation to RRA, the final calculations had revealed a deficit of $152,000.

(c) that whereas it had been hoped in February that the deficit would be remedied in 1955, it was now feared that the deficit might have grown by $50,000 to about $200,000 by the end of 1955.

(d) that whereas it had been expected that revenue would balance expenditure before the end of the RRA programme, it was now feared that there would be a deficit of not less than $100,000 at the end of the programme (i.e., at the end of 1956).

(e) that conversations will be held with the American churches at an early date concerning the covering of the deficit.

The Finance Sub-Committee felt that these facts should be reported to the Executive Committee although the whole position will, of course, be reviewed by the full Finance Committee next week."

Dr. Blake explained that the operation under the Refugee Relief Act represents a programme carried out by the World Council and the U.S. Churches in co-operation. He explained briefly some of the main difficulties which had given rise to the present financial problem, in particular the long delay experienced in the securing of visas under RRA and the changed international situation as a result of which, particularly in Germany, potential migrants after waiting for more than one year for a visa, were deciding that they no longer wished to emigrate when visas could be secured. He reported that the American and inter-governmental authorities had strongly urged both C.W.S. and the W.C.C. to continue with the R.R.A. programme notwithstanding the delays and difficulties. He explained that the problem would be laid before the Finance Committee and it would there be explained that a decision must be taken between the alternatives of stopping the RRA operation or continuing it. The first alternative would result in a deficit of perhaps $250,000, would disappoint the hopes of large numbers of refugees and would have a harmful effect on relations with the U.S. churches in co-operation with whom the operation had been initiated. Under the second alternative, an eventual deficit of perhaps $100,000 must be foreseen. Dr. Blake explained that the estimate of movements under the RRA had worsened even in the last few weeks. It had until quite recently been hoped that the RRA operation would eventually end without overall deficit. That was still possible but now seemed improbable.

Dr. Fry reported that he had participated in the discussions in the Administrative Committee of the Division a few days previously. Whereas in February the Division had estimated that 8,000 refugees would enter the U.S.A. in 1955, that figure had now been reduced to 4,000 and the expectations for 1956 were placed at 10,000 movements. As one of those intimately concerned with operations under RRA, Dr. Fry felt that these could be considered reasonably sound estimates. Dr. Fry further suggested that a net final cost of about $ 100,000 for the European end of the R.R.A. operations might be considered as not unreasonable.

The Executive Committee expressed its understanding and sympathy to those responsible for the Refugee Service and those who had been seeking in the U.S.A. to secure the effective operation of RRA, in all the difficulties which had been experienced. The Executive Committee took note of the position and of the fact that it would be further considered by the Finance Committee and the Central Committee on the basis of the recommendation from the Administrative Committee of the Division that the operation should be continued.

(4) Travel Loan Fund

"The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that, whereas it had been reported in February that the Travel Loan Fund was expected to show an overdraft of about $135,000 as at the end of 1954, the final figures had shown an overdraft of about $200,000. On the other hand the trend had now been reversed and by May 31st, 1955 the overdraft had been lowered to about $140,000 and it was

expected to be reduced to about Ø50,000 by the end of 1955 and to move to a positive balance in the course of 1956. The Finance Sub-Committee took note of these facts, which will be reported to the full Finance Committee."

Dr. Blake explained that the Finance Sub-Committee had reached the conclusion that this fund should not be regarded as available to meet the deficit foreseen under item (3) above. It had, however, been recognised that in case of necessity it would represent a final reserve to safeguard the financial stability of the World Council. He explained that the income to the fund from repayments of loans by refugees was rising.

In reply to a question from Principal Baillie, Mr. Northam gave a brief explanation of the operations under the fund and some indications of the average time taken by refugees to repay loans and the proportion of total loans which it was hoped would eventually be repaid. Dr. Cooke pointed out that although loans outstanding at end 1954 were estimated at about Ø1 ¼ million, it must not be forgotten that there would be expense involved in collecting repayments and that there would also be bad debts.

The Executive Committee took note of this information.

(5) General Budget, 1955 and 1956

"The Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee reported that expenditure in both 1955 and 1956 seemed likely slightly to exceed the Ø441,000 level of the model budget approved by the Evanston Assembly but that proposals were being submitted for operating with a balanced budget and he suggested that the members of the Finance Sub-Committee should take copies of the paper on this question for study before the meeting of the full Finance Committee but that discussion of the question should be deferred till that meeting."

Dr. Blake pointed out that experience indicated that the programme approved by the Evanston Assembly would in fact cost more than the model budget approved by the Evanston Assembly. He pointed out that the action taken by the Executive Committee in February defining the limitations within which special gifts might be solicited, might lead to the securing of special grants which would ease the position. Proposals were to be brought before the Finance Committee which would permit the continuation of the programme without endangering the financial stability of the World Council. The whole position would be considered by the full Finance Committee and the Central Committee. The 1956 budget would, of course, also need to be reviewed by the Executive Committee in February 1956.

Dr. Blake reported that the response of the member churches to the request of the Evanston Assembly for increased contributions to the General Budget had been most encouraging but he pointed out that even this fact had its disconcerting aspect in that present indications suggested that whilst a large increase in revenue in 1955 by comparison with 1954 seemed assured, little further increase could be expected in 1956.

Dr. Payne suggested that this was a not unencouraging report and the Executive Committee agreed to leave discussion of of the position to the full Finance Committee and Central Committee.

(6) Cheque signatories for London bank account

On a motion from Dr. Blake the Executive Committee agreed:

that Midland Bank Ltd., Woburn Place, London, England be advised that, in replacement of those at present authorised, any two or the following persons are now authorised to sign jointly cheques and other documents for the operation of the bank account of the World Council of Churches with that bank:

Dr. Norman Goodall
Miss Sigrid Morden
Mr. Frank Northam
Dr. Ernest Payne
The Rev. R.D. Say
The Rev. Kenneth Slack
Mr. H. Wheeler

10. Report of the ad hoc Headquarters Properties Committee

Dr. Blake presented a written report from the ad hoc Headquarters Properties Committee and expounded the proposals of that Committee by reference to plans and a model which had been prepared by the architect.

Dr. Blake called attention to two suggested decisions of policy, namely that the headquarters of the World Council could and should be developed on a long term basis on the present properties on route de Malagnou, Geneva, and that the development should be in campus style rather than in the form of one large building. The plan would include provision for a separate chapel but not for a monumental chapel building.

Dr. Blake reported that the cost of the total plan was estimated at $750,000 but that it was suggested that the Churches should be asked to take responsibility for the raising of $300,000 so that work could be started and immediate needs met.

Bishop Sherrill asked whether it might not be better to seek gifts for a building fund from individuals and foundations rather than from the member churches and expressed the hope that it might be possible to secure sizeable individual gifts. Dr. Blake pointed out that there had been discussions at the Executive Committee in February 1955 as to the relative desirability of turning to the member churches or to individuals and foundations for building fund money and that the present plan retained both ideas. It was suggested that the member churches should be asked to take responsibility for the raising of $300,000; this represented a non-recurring request for about 75% of the amount contributed each year to the general budget and some churches had already indicated that they expected to be able to provide their share of such a total sum. Secondly it was suggested that simultaneous efforts should be made to raise $450,000 from individuals or foundations. If member churches were willing to take responsibility for the raising of $300,000, that would provide assurance of sufficient money for work

to be undertaken to meet immediate needs even if gifts from individuals or foundations were not secured in the near future.

Dean Pope expressed the hope that the final plans might include some buildings which would be impressive, memorable and symbolic as World Council headquarters. Dr. Blake replied that the first stage of the development would not prejudice the possibility of meeting this desire but pointed out that the feeling of the ad hoc Headquarters Properties Committee had been strongly in favour of the retention of the present simple campus style and that there had been no suggestion of demolishing the present smaller buildings and replacing them by one large building.

The written report of the ad hoc Headquarters Properties Committee was revised in the light of the discussion by the Executive Committee and the following report was forwarded with the general approval of the Executive Committee to the Finance Committee for consideration of the financial aspects of the plan and to the Central Committee.

> "It will be recalled that the Executive Committee appointed last February an ad hoc Headquarters Properties Committee 'to work out a plan for the development of the headquarters properties and for the raising of funds for the realisation of that plan'. The ad hoc Committee consists of those members of the Finance Committee who are members of the Executive Committee, plus M. Georges Lombard; the Committee thus consists of Dr. Blake, Dr. Niemöller, Bishop Oxnam, Mr. R.D. Paul and M. Lombard.

A first meeting was held on Saturday, July 30th with all members except Bishop Oxnam present and with Dr. Fry and Dr. Pope also attending. A plan for the development of the properties had been prepared by a Geneva architect - M. Lesemann - on the basis of discussions with the General Secretariat which had been held during a visit by the Chairman, Dr. Blake, to Geneva on July 17th, 1955 and that plan was explained to and discussed by the Committee.

The following report was submitted to the Executive Committee on August 1st, 1955 and received the general approval of that Committee. The report was referred to the Finance Committee for consideration of the financial aspects of the question.

The Committee first considered whether an adequate and satisfactory long-term development could be planned on the land at present owned by the World Council. After a careful study of the ground plans and the architect's proposals, the Committee decided that that question could be answered affirmatively. The Committee also decided that the present 'campus style' development with a number of buildings spaced around the property and with trees and lawns in between the buildings, represented the best type of disposition of buildings and was preferable to a plan for the erection of one large building to house all services.

The Committee then considered the plan submitted by the architect and after extensive discussion, reached the following conclusions:

(i) that for the building of a chapel and a library and the erection of adequate office accommodation and for the repayment of the mortgage on existing properties (about $29,000) and the possible extension of those properties, a total expenditure of about $750,000 must be envisaged.

(ii) that the first and immediate need is the erection of the first unit of the office buildings, which would permit the replacement of the wooden barracks which are still in use for offices and also allow some space for expansion and possibly the extension of the existing properties. For that first part of the plan an expenditure of about $300,000 must be envisaged.

The Committee recalled earlier discussions of possible methods of raising funds for the financing of the development of headquarters properties and concluded that there would be real advantage if an important part of the needed funds could be provided by the World Council constituency on a widely distributed basis but that substantial gifts from individuals or foundations would also be most welcome. After discussion the Committee agreed to recommend:

(i) that the member churches should be asked to accept responsibility for the raising of $300,000 for the plan for the development of headquarters properties, the total to be raised roughly in accordance with the proportions in which the various churches and areas contribute to the General Budget.

(ii) that simultaneous efforts should be made to raise the remaining sum of $450,000 by securing gifts from individuals or foundations.

As regards recommendation (i), it was recognised that the various churches might adopt differing methods for the raising of funds, that some might vote the total for which they were responsible from central budget resources and some might conduct a campaign for securing individual gifts within their own constituency or gifts from individual congregations within the Church. The Committee felt that it would be best to leave complete freedom as to the manner in which individual churches might seek to raise their quotas towards the total fund of $300,000.

The Committee suggested that the objective might be either the completion of the first stage of the development plan, or at least the raising of the sum of $300,000 required for that first stage, by the tenth anniversary of the foundation of the World Council, i.e., by August 1958. "

11. Faith and Order Constitution

Dr. Nelson called attention to some problems in the wording of the Faith and Order Constitution which called for revision.

The Executive Committee noted that these proposals would be forwarded through the Division of Studies to the Central Committee.

12. Interpretation of the Rules

Dr. Visser 't Hooft called attention to the fact that Rule V 1 (d) which reads

> "Chairmen and vice-chairmen of divisional and departmental committees and commissions who are not members of the Central Committee have the right to attend Central Committee sessions as consultants without vote.",

did not specifically refer to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Faith and Order, and it was

AGREED that the Executive Committee propose to the Central Committee that Rule V 1 (d) be understood as including also the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Faith and Order.

13. Staffing Committee

The Staffing Committee recommended and it was

AGREED:

Division of Studies

that Dr. D.T.Niles be invited to serve as Secretary of the Department on Evangelism for a further three years on a part-time basis, and that the Division of Studies be asked to keep in mind the need to provide for a full-time Executive Secretary for this Department as soon as it becomes financially possible;

Division of Ecumenical Action

that Miss Helen Turnbull be invited to serve as a Secretary of the Department on Cooperation between Men and Women in Church and Society for three years;

that the appointment by the Officers of Pastor Hans-Ruedi Weber as Executive Secretary of the Department on the Laity for three years be confirmed, subject to the approval of the Central Committee;

that the appointment by the Officers of the Rev. Charles West as a member of the staff of the Ecumenical Institute for three years from March 1st 1956 be confirmed;

Division of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees

that the appointment by the Officers of the Rev. Howard Schomer as a member of the staff of the Division for three years be confirmed;

that the appointment by the Officers of Miss Lois Meyhoffer as a member of the staff of the Division for three years be confirmed;

that Dr. Laszlo Ledermann be invited to serve as a Secretary of the Division for a further three years;

Department of Information

that the appointment by the Officers of Miss Betty Thompson as a Secretary of the Department for two years be confirmed;

that the Rev. Elsie T. Culver be invited to serve as a Secretary of the Department for a further year on a part-time basis.

14. Applications for Membership

Dr. Visser 't Hooft noted two applications for membership which he felt he could submit to the Central Committee for action. The Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Silesia (Czechoslovakia) and the National Baptist Convention of America (Unincorporated). In the case of the first, the letter of acceptance of the Basis had not yet been received but it was felt that the Central Committee should take action and that the six months period provided for in Article II of the Constitution should begin when that letter had been received and the General Secretary had notified the member Churches. The Executive Committee approved of the submission of these names to the Central Committee.

The Committee also noted that applications had been received from the Free Magyar Reformed Church in America and the Presbyterian Church in Korea. In neither case did the General Secretary nor the Executive Committee feel that these applications should be submitted at this time. In each case the Committee asked certain of its members to carry on conversations and make further enquiries.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft referred to other churches which might apply for membership in the near future. Dr. Fry pointed out that no clear criterion existed as to the size of churches which should be admitted. The staff of the General Secretariat and of the Joint Committee were asked to look into the question of the sizes of churches now in membership and to give a report to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

15. Report of the Joint Committee of the I.M.C. and the W.C.C.

Dr. Goodall called attention to two points in the Minutes of the Joint Committee: (1) concerning the problems involved in choosing a successor to Dr. Manikam as East Asia Secretary and (2) concerning plans for the further handling of the Jewish question. (See Extracts from Minutes of the Joint Committee in the Appendices to the Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Central Committee).

16. Commission of the Churches on International Affairs

Sir Kenneth Grubb said that the most important action of the C.C.I.A. had been its adoption of the document on disarmament. It had, however, also made proposals for cooperative work in relationship to the World Health Organization, for following up the Beirut Conference on Arab Refugees and for the study on the approach to International Ethos.

Dr. Nolde presented a statement on disarmament which had been adopted by the Executive Committee of the C.C.I.A. (See Appendices to Minutes of Eighth Meeting of the Central Committee). He said that the suggestion had been made, not by the C.C.I.A., that the Central Committee might wish to adopt this statement as its own. He was afraid that if this were done the Central Committee might wish to change the text and thus produce a second version of the same document. Dr. Visser 't Hooft said he felt that this document reflected the work of the C.C.I.A. over several years and that it should be in some way blessed by the Central Committee. After considerable discussion as to whether it would be better to ask the Central Committee to adopt the document or merely to receive and commend it, it was

AGREED: that the Executive Committee recommend that the Central Committee "adopt the statement on disarmament as an approach to certain aspects of this problem and commend it to the urgent consideration of the churches".

17. Report on the Divisional and Departmental Committee Meetings

Dr. Cavert read the report that had been prepared by the Steering Committee of the meeting of Divisional and Departmental Committees. (See in Minutes of Eighth Meeting of the Central Committee under "Business from the Reference Committee").

It was

AGREED: to receive this report and forward it to the Central Committee through the Reference Committee.

18. Report of the Executive Committee to the Central Committee

Dr. Fry pointed out that the Report of the Executive Committee to the Central Committee would consist of four major sections.

(1) A statement on the life of the Council in the past year, prepared by Dr. Visser 't Hooft.

(2) A brief review of the items referred to the Executive Committee by the Central Committee.

(3) A review of the actions taken by the Executive Committee in furtherance of the work of the World Council.

(4) A brief summary of actions taken by the Executive Committee for the meeting of the Central Committee.

Dr. Fry then read the statement prepared by Dr. Visser 't Hooft and the Committee agreed that at this meeting of the Central Committee that statement should be read. Dr. Fry then outlined the items which he intended to mention in his report to the Central Committee.

19. Division of Inter-Church Aid

The Committee noted the recommendation of the Administrative Committee of the Division of Inter-Church Aid that in the future the Administrative Committee should consist of nine rather than seven members, three of whom should be chosen in consultation with the I.M.C. and proposed that this recommendation be brought to the Central Committee through the Nominations Committee. The Committee also

AGREED: to recommend to the Nominations Committee and the Central Committee that Dr. Robert Mackie be asked to be the Chairman of the Administrative Committee of the Division of Inter-Church Aid.

20. Ecumenical Action

Dr. Mackie called attention to the proposal that would be submitted to the Central Committee for an alteration of Rule 7, Section 3, that the sentence which reads "In the case of the Ecumenical Institute and the Graduate School of Ecumenical Studies, their boards shall be regarded as the working committees" be changed to read "In the case of the Ecumenical Institute its board shall be regarded as the working committee". It was explained that this change was suggested as the Graduate School would be represented in any case through the Institute and to facilitate a closer cooperation of the Graduate School within the Institute. The Committee asked Dr. Bliss and Dean Pope to look at this proposal in the name of the Executive Committee.

21. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. on August 2nd, 1955.

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